

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-25. (Canceled).

26. (Currently Amended) A rigidizable medical device comprising:
an inner element of the device and an outer element of the device positioned
concentrically around the inner element, wherein the inner and outer elements
are flexible; and
a plurality of components positioned between the inner and outer elements, each
component being distinct from the inner and outer elements;
wherein in a first state the components interfere between the inner and outer
elements with a force sufficient to prevent the inner and outer elements from
sliding longitudinally relative to one another, and in a second state the
components do not significantly interfere with the inner and outer elements
sliding longitudinally relative to one another.

27. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 26:
wherein the components comprise an electroactive polymer.

28. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 26:

wherein the components comprise balloons.

29. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 26:

wherein the components are energized and expanded radially in the first state.

30. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 26:

wherein the components are energized and contracted radially in the second state.

31. - 55. (Canceled)

56. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 26:

wherein the device is rigid in the first state.

57. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 26:

wherein the device is flexible in the second state.

58. (Currently Amended) The medical device of claim 26, wherein the inner element comprises a first tubular element and the outer element comprises a second tubular element positioned at least in part around the first tubular element.

59. (New) The medical device of claim 26, wherein the inner and outer elements are configured to be inserted into a hollow body structure to perform a medical procedure using the device.